



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture  
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## September 2011 Small Grain Summary

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All wheat production in Montana, at 178.3 million bushels, is down 17 percent from the 2010 crop of 215.4 million bushels, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. All wheat yield was 35.8 bushels per acre, down 5.5 bushels from a year ago. Montana's 2011 winter wheat production was 89.8 million bushels, 4 percent below last year's production. Producers seeded 2.25 million acres of winter wheat, up 10 percent from 2010. Producers harvested 2.19 million acres, up 240,000 acres from last year. The 2011 winter wheat average yield, at 41.0 bushels per acre, is 3 bushels below the August forecast and 7 bushels below a year ago.

Spring wheat production in Montana was 76.8 million bushels, down 26 percent from 2010. The acreage seeded was 2.45 million acres, down 400,000 acres from last year's acreage of 2.85 million. Producers harvested 2.40 million acres, down 330,000 acres from the previous year. The average yield was 32.0 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from the August forecast, but down 6 bushels from the previous year.

Montana durum wheat growers seeded 400,000 acres, down 140,000 acres from last year. Producers harvested 390,000 acres, down 140,000 acres from 2010. The average yield was 30.0 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from the August forecast, but down 4 bushels from the previous year. Total production for 2011 was estimated at 11.7 million bushels, down 35 percent from last year's 18.0 million bushels.

In 2011, Montana producers seeded 700,000 acres of barley, down 60,000 acres from 2010. Producers harvested 620,000 acres for grain, unchanged from last year. The average yield for 2011 is 50.0 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from the August forecast as well as down 12 bushels from last year. Production was estimated at 31.0 million bushels, down 19 percent from last year.

Oat production in Montana was 1.0 million bushels, down 39 percent from last year. Planted acreage was 45,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from 2010, breaking the record low of 60,000 acres set in 2008. Acreage harvested for grain was 20,000 acres, down 7,000 acres from last year, breaking the record low of 24,000 acres set in 2006. Average yield, at 50.0 bushels per acre, was down 5 bushels from the previous forecast, as well as 11 bushels below 2010.

All wheat production in the United States totaled 2.01 billion bushels in 2011, down 9 percent from 2010. Grain area totaled 45.7 million acres, down 4 percent from the previous year. The United States yield is 43.9 bushels per acre, down 2.4 bushels from the previous year's record high but still ranks as the fifth highest on record.

The 2011 United States winter wheat production totaled 1.49 billion bushels, down slightly from the August forecast but 1 percent above the previous year. The U.S. yield is 46.2 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from August and down 0.6 bushel from 2010. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 32.3 million acres, up slightly from August and up 2 percent from the previous year. Planted and harvested acres were down from 2010 in most of the major Hard Red Winter growing States. Overall, Hard Red Winter production totaled 780 million bushels, down 23 percent from 2010.

Other spring wheat production in the United States for 2011 is estimated at 462 million bushels, down 11 percent from the August forecast and down 25 percent from 2010. Harvested area totaled 12.1 million acres, down 2 percent from August and down 10 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is 38.3 bushels per acre, down 4.2 bushels from August and 7.8 bushels lower than last year. Yields are below the previous year's level in all States except Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, where record high yields were achieved in all three States.

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United States durum wheat production for 2011 is estimated at 51.9 million bushels, down 9 percent from the August forecast and down 51 percent from 2010. Grain area harvested is 1.32 million acres, down 2 percent from August and down 48 percent from the previous year. The U.S. yield is 39.3 bushels per acre, down 3.1 bushels from August and down 2.8 bushels from 2010 but still the third highest yield on record, trailing only 2009 and 2010. Flooding and excessively wet conditions during spring and early summer reduced area available for planting in Montana and North Dakota and hampered crop development throughout the growing season.

Barley production in the United States is estimated at 155 million bushels, down 8 percent from the August forecast and 14 percent below 2010, and the lowest since 1936. Average yield per acre, at 69.2 bushels, is down 3.9 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.56 million acres in 2011, down 11 percent from last year. This is the lowest planted acreage on record. Harvested area, at 2.24 million acres, is down 9 percent from 2010, and the lowest level since 1881.

The 2011 United States oat production is estimated at a record low 54.0 million bushels, down 6 percent from the August forecast and down 33 percent from 2010. Yield is estimated at 57.5 bushels per acre, down 4.1 bushels from August and down 6.8 bushels from the previous year. Area planted to oats is estimated at a record low 2.50 million acres, down 4 percent from the previous estimate and down 20 percent from 2010. In total, record lows for planted acres were set in 24 States. Harvested area is estimated at a record low 940,000 acres, up slightly from August but 26 percent below last year. Record lows for harvested area occurred in 19 States.

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#### September 1, 2011 Small Grains Summary, Montana and U.S.

| Crop                 | Unit | Acres Planted |          | Acres Harvested |          | Yield |      | Production    |           |
|----------------------|------|---------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-------|------|---------------|-----------|
|                      |      | 2010          | 2011     | 2010            | 2011     | 2010  | 2011 | 2010          | 2011      |
| <b>MONTANA</b>       |      | (000) Acres   |          | (000) Acres     |          |       |      | (000) Bushels |           |
| Winter Wheat         | Bu   | 2,050.0       | 2,250.0  | 1,950.0         | 2,190.0  | 48.0  | 41.0 | 93,600        | 89,790    |
| Durum Wheat          | Bu   | 540.0         | 400.0    | 530.0           | 390.0    | 34.0  | 30.0 | 18,020        | 11,700    |
| Spring Wheat         | Bu   | 2,850.0       | 2,450.0  | 2,730.0         | 2,400.0  | 38.0  | 32.0 | 103,740       | 76,800    |
| All Wheat            | Bu   | 5,440.0       | 5,100.0  | 5,210.0         | 4,980.0  | 41.3  | 35.8 | 215,360       | 178,290   |
| Barley               | Bu   | 760.0         | 700.0    | 620.0           | 620.0    | 62.0  | 50.0 | 38,440        | 31,000    |
| Oats                 | Bu   | 65.0          | 45.0     | 27.0            | 20.0     | 61.0  | 50.0 | 1,647         | 1,000     |
| <b>UNITED STATES</b> |      | (000) Acres   |          | (000) Acres     |          |       |      | (000) Bushels |           |
| Winter Wheat         | Bu   | 37,335.0      | 40,646.0 | 31,741.0        | 32,314.0 | 46.8  | 46.2 | 1,484,861     | 1,493,677 |
| Durum Wheat          | Bu   | 2,560.0       | 1,369.0  | 2,519.0         | 1,322.0  | 42.1  | 39.3 | 106,080       | 51,889    |
| Spring Wheat         | Bu   | 13,698.0      | 12,394.0 | 13,359.0        | 12,079.0 | 46.1  | 38.3 | 615,975       | 462,473   |
| All Wheat            | Bu   | 53,593.0      | 54,409.0 | 47,619.0        | 45,715.0 | 46.3  | 43.9 | 2,206,916     | 2,008,039 |
| Barley               | Bu   | 2,872.0       | 2,559.0  | 2,465.0         | 2,239.0  | 73.1  | 69.2 | 180,268       | 155,050   |
| Oats                 | Bu   | 3,138.0       | 2,496.0  | 1,263.0         | 940.0    | 64.3  | 57.5 | 81,190        | 54,005    |